

FY 2014 HUD SOUTHEAST REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

HUD @ work in your community

MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Greetings and welcome to the HUD Southeast Regional Highlights Review of Fiscal Year (FY) 2014. Fiscal Year 2014 was indeed a year of continued accomplishment building on the momentum and successes of FY 2013. The projects portrayed in the Southeast Region 2014 Review are listed on a state by state basis and are indicative of the type of work we do but are not all inclusive. We invite you to review the highlighted stories and go to the respective state website link to explore and learn how HUD is also helping bring meaningful platforms of hope to those we serve, while also being good stewards of the environment. As you visit the HUD state websites, please take a moment to note that there are helpful topics which may be of benefit to you, your family, and your community as well. You may also follow what is going on in your state, the region and nationally by following us on Twitter @HUDSoutheast. We are extraordinarily excited about what we have accomplished this year with the help of our partners and are looking forward to an even more productive and meaningful 2015 as we approach the 50th Anniversary of HUD. As always your feedback about this review is important to us so please feel free to contact us with your thoughts at GA_Webmanager@hud.gov. Thank you again for reading the HUD Southeast Regional Highlights Review of FY 2014 and we appreciate the opportunity to share our success stories with you.



-Ed Jennings, Jr.

FHA 80TH ANNIVERSARY RECOGNIZES NEW LOUISVILLE HOMEBUYER



LOUISVILLE, KY—HUD SE Regional Administrator Ed Jennings, Jr., Congressman John Yarmuth and a host of partners joined FHA homebuyer Myra Woodard at her new home to celebrate the 80th Anniversary of FHA. It was a long, hard struggle for her to transition from public housing to homeownership, but with the support of the Louisville Metro Housing Authority, the HUD Family Self-Sufficiency Program, and HUD-approved housing counseling her dream has become a reality.

FHA has opened doors to homeownership for over 40 million families since 1934, providing an affordable way to build wealth and plant roots in their community.

[Read the full article](#)

HARP OUTREACH EVENT HITS ATLANTA

ATLANTA, GA—The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) hosted an outreach event to reach homeowners who could benefit from the Home Affordable Refinance Program (HARP). FHFA Director Mel Watt joined housing experts and community leaders to include HUD Southeast Regional Administrator Ed Jennings, Jr. in a town hall meeting that highlighted the benefits of HARP for home ownership preservation and provided tools to help community leaders encourage the more than 34,000 Atlanta area residents still eligible to participate to take advantage of HARP. These eligible borrowers could save as much as \$2,000 each per year by refinancing their mortgage.



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AFFORDABLE HOUSING SENIORS IN ST. THOMAS - SUGAR ESTATES



ST. THOMAS/USVI—Elderly residents in need of affordable housing in St. Thomas will have 80 units available at Sugar Estates. The apartments, expected for the end of 2015, will have energy efficient appliances, ample storage, living, dining and kitchen areas, and will be adaptable for persons with disabilities.

HUD San Juan Field Office staff recently joined the Governor of the Virgin Islands, island legislators, and executives from the Virgin Islands Housing Authority to celebrate the groundbreaking of the new housing development. This \$31 million community will provide social services with emphasis on wellness and resident empowerment through independent living.

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SOUTH FLORIDIANS READY TO BE HOMEOWNERS



MIAMI, FL—If you are thinking about buying a home, we have information that can help. Talk to one of our housing counselors! On June 28th, over 300 potential homebuyers learned about affordable, efficient paths to home ownership at a Homebuyer expo in Miramar, Florida. Attendees received information from several presenters, lenders, partners, and non-profit agencies for programs on financing, housing assistance, and fair housing.

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ATLANTA'S BETMAR VILLAGE FIRST MIXED-FINANCING 202 PROJECT



ATLANTA, GA—The Betmar Village senior housing development in Atlanta is the first mixed-finance HUD 202 development in Georgia and one of only a few in the country that opened its doors earlier this Spring. HUD's Multifamily Housing office worked closely with the project sponsor National Church Residences to bring the project to fruition. The Betmar Village property consists of 36 HUD units and 12 low income housing tax credit units and is located in an Empowerment Zone in two longtime Atlanta neighborhoods of Betmar and Joyland. The Betmar Village project is an example of how several organizations combined their diverse resources to successfully develop multifamily housing.

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JACKSONVILLE RESIDENTS SHAPE THEIR 2025 DESTINY

JACKSONVILLE, FL—JAX2025 is a civic driven initiative created to decide today what kind of community this Florida city wants to be in the year 2025. The Jacksonville Community Council facilitates the conversation, originated in 2012 with 19,000 residents who shared a vision and proposed solutions, and are implementing them. HUD joined JAX2025 and has engaged to help stabilize low-income families via financial literacy and education.



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INCREASING ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND WELLNESS IN GRUNDY COUNTY



KNOXVILLE, TN—Most recently Ed Ellis, Knoxville Field Office Director, participated in a healthcare and wellness meeting at the Grundy County Historical Society Building in Tracy City, Tennessee. This isolated Appalachian region is situated between the metropolitan areas of Nashville and Chattanooga, and has some of the highest levels of poverty in the state, ranking 95th out of 95 counties in Tennessee. HUD's Sustainability Office, the local HUD Office, and EPA representatives met in order to share expertise on dealing with Brownfields and Sustainability issues.

[Read the full article](#)

LET IT RAIN! - HUD FUNDS FOR STURDY HOMES



SAN JUAN, PR—When it comes to tropical storms and hurricanes, Puerto Ricans are ready. And for a large percentage of the low income population there is a lot to do after, because their homes are not storm resistant. This is why when Puerto Rico's Housing Finance Authority decided to use HOME funds to build concrete homes with modern designs, the idea was welcome. Six homes have been built in different areas of the island.

[Read the full article](#)

MEMPHIS HUD STAFF CONNECTS TO HELP THE HOMELESS



MEMPHIS, TN—Memphis Field Policy Management and PM and Public Housing staff joined the September 18, 2014 Project Homeless Connect 5 at the Cook Convention Center in downtown Memphis. The massive event, sponsored in part by FedEx, brought hundreds of homeless together with hundreds of community volunteers. Virtually every service organization in the City took part.

The event brought together key providers and provided critical services which included 142 identifications issued; 369 homeless were screened for housing services and 105 approved; 115 were seen by medical professionals, as well as other services.

[Read the full article](#)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ON VETERAN'S DAY



NASHVILLE, TN—In September, Habitat for Humanity celebrated the beginning of its 4000th house built in Tennessee with a wall raising ceremony.

Congratulations to the selected homebuyer Harold Allen, a local Vietnam Veteran and native of Franklin, TN. Over 70 supporters came to mark this important milestone, including Franklin Mayor Dr. Ken Moore; County Mayor, and representatives from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati, Tennessee Housing Development Agency, USDA-Rural Development, HUD Tennessee Office Directors, Habitat for Humanity, Eco-Energy, and American Legion 215.

[Read the full article](#)

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